

MINUTES
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE UNITED STATES BRIDGE FEDERATION
TUESSDAY, SEPT. 4, 2018
9:00 PM EST
BY CONFERENCE CALL

Directors Present: David Caprera, Marty Fleisher, Bob Katz, Brad Moss, Beth Palmer, Josh Parker

Others Present: Marty Harris, Jan Martel, Joe Stokes, Stan Subeck, Sylvia Shi for part of the meeting.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Marty Fleisher at 9:02 pm EST.

II. ATTENDANCE: ESTABLISH QUORUM

The president noted that at least a majority of the directors were present at the meeting, thus establishing a quorum for the purpose of transacting business by the Board.

III. SYLVIA SHI REQUEST REGARDING ELIGIBILITY TO ENTER USBC

Attachments: Sylvia Shi proposal, Marty Harris proposal.

Sylvia Shi asked the Board to consider revising the rules regarding participation in a subsequent USBC by someone who has qualified in a prior USBC. Her proposal does not apply to the Open USBC – players who have qualified for the Open World Championship would not be allowed to play in a subsequent USBC. She asks that players who have qualified in the Women’s or Seniors be allowed to play in a subsequent event. Her proposal, at least for 2019, is that a player who has qualified in the Women’s or Seniors may compete in a later USBC, but only if s/he agrees that if s/he qualifies in the subsequent event, s/he will drop off the prior event team.

The Board discussed three possibilities:

1. Leave things as they are – if someone qualifies in one event, they are not allowed to play in the second event.
2. Sylvia’s proposal: a player who qualifies in one event can enter a second event, but only if they agree to play in the second event World Championship should they qualify.

3. Players can enter more than one event and after they qualify in both events they can choose which World Championship they want to play in.

The Board unanimously rejected option 3. The Board then discussed the issue of how to deal with a team from which a player had withdrawn because s/he had qualified in a subsequent event. After discussion, the Board decided that this issue required more thought and that a small committee should try to come up with proposed methods for dealing with this problem that would work. After the committee reports back, the Board will decide what to do about Sylvia's proposal.

IV. MIXED USBC SCHEDULE

Matthew Granovetter has asked that the Mixed USBC be moved 3 days later so that it does not conflict with Shavvuos.

Although the Board was sympathetic to Matthew's concerns, it is not feasible to move the starting date of the Mixed USBC three days later, because that would mean that the USBF would have to pay expenses for our staff to remain in Schaumburg 3 extra days and in addition we would have to take down and re-set the screen tables and other equipment, which adds to the expense of the event. The Board appointed Matthew as a member of the Tournament Planning Committee so in future years he can provide input issue about Jewish holidays when events are being planned.

Migry Campanile and Alison Wilson have both asked whether the Mixed USBC schedule could be adjusted to allow players in the Mixed to play in the European Mixed teams which starts on June 15th in Turkey.

The Board voted unanimously to change the starting date of the Mixed USBC to Friday, June 7th and to have the Knockout matches be 90 boards long (1-1/2 days). If there are 8 or fewer teams, the event will end in the early afternoon on Thursday, June 13th. If there are 9 or more teams entered, the event will end in the evening on Friday, June 14th. The Board also voted unanimously to include a provision in the Mixed USBC Conditions of Contest providing that if both teams in the USA2 Finals want to play that match at a future time, it will be rescheduled. Finally, the Board voted to have the entry date for the 2019 Mixed USBC early (May 6th) so that teams will know when the event is going to end.

V. JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Board thanked Dave Caprera for his generous contribution to the USBF Junior program of not accepting reimbursement of his expenses to get to China as NPC of the USA2 Patiño cup team.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:46 pm EDT.